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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

# Novi schools ramps up bond campaign

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

For the upcoming \$185 million bond proposal for the Novi Community School District, timing is everything.

Several bonds the district has are coming off the books this year, freeing up taxpayer dollars that are easily transferred to the next set.

That's one of the biggest reasons voters are going to decide whether or not the district should take more bonds out when they head to the polls later this fall.

The proposed bond, if approved by voters, would see many improvements across the district's buildings, from additional security to essentially redoing and the paying off of old notes. Meadows Elementary to adding a new robotics facility at Novi High School.

Taxpayers in the district currently pay 7 mills on current bonds held by the district. If the proposal were to pass, that rate would become 6.75 mills, something that can happen due to favorable conditions across the district

"It's the property values increasing and being more property as well," said Steve Matthews, superintendent of the district. "That combination allows us to reduce the millage and still generate a lot of revenue."

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See BOND, Page 2A

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### **MDOT plans** massive I-275 improvement project for 2020

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is hoping to inform drivers of the department's upcoming Interstate 275 project, which will stretch through the communities of Northville, Livonia, Plymouth and Canton.

MDOT is hosting a public meeting about the project at 4 p.m. Oct. 15 in Summit on the Park, which is at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton. The meeting is expected to last about two hours.

The project, which is slated to begin in early 2020 and end in the fall, will be a \$50 million investment by the state to improve the bridges and road between Ford Road and Six Mile Road.

"(The) road portion mainly consists milling and resurfacing with hot mix asphalt with shoulder widening," said Diane Cross with MDOT's Office of Communications in an email. "Bridge (work) mainly consist of deck patching and overlays." As the project continues, two northbound lanes and two southbound lanes will remain open at all times. But, the work will include ramp closures Attendees to the Oct. 15 meeting will hear from MDOT staff, the design team and project consultants. Residents and stakeholders will hear about and see the type of work that will happen, traffic details and the project's location.



Joe Gonzales, left, a technical specialist with Linear AMS, shows two students from Holmes Middle School how one of the company's printers works during Manufacturing Day on Friday in Livonia. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **Students tour facilities** for Manufacturing Day

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Friday was the first time Olivia Kollovozi saw a 3-D printer. It was something to which she had been looking forward.

"I was interested in learning about all the different objects that manufacturers make," said Kollovozi, an eighth grader at Holmes Middle School in Livonia. "I was really fascinated with the huge printers and how they create these objects."

She joined several of her classmates to visit Linear AMS, 12163 Globe in Livonia, as part of the Manufacturing Day celebrations. The day, marked during the first week of October, encourages students to visit and learn about various manufacturers in their area and get a

.



Seventh graders Connor Buchanan and Caden Yacura look at one of the machines at Linear AMS in Livonia.

better idea of what they do.

The day was marked with plenty of tours across the region, which boasts many manufacturing facilities. Ten schools from several area districts -Livonia, Wayne-Westland, Clarenceville, Garden City and Northville, as well as Peace Lutheran School in Livonia - planned stops at nine manufacturing facilities, as well as Schoolcraft College.

Such a day is important for students, said David Mitchell, a computer science teacher at Holmes, to help them learn about options they have once they finish high school. The earlier students can be exposed to different options, the better, he said.

See MANUFACTURING DAY, Page 4A

The meeting will also have time for resident, business owner and city officials' questions.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter at @shelby\_tankk.



Drivers head south on I-275, MDOT will host a public meeting about its planned \$50 million project for 2020 on Oct. 15 in Summit on the Park. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

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## Staff, programs, facilities give students chance to succeed

**Steve Matthews Guest** columnist

Why would people want to live and work in the Novi **Community School District?** 

Over the course of the past year, we have wrestled with those questions. First, a strategic planning process clearly identified our vision. The strategic planning process made clear that we exist for our students. Our school district exists to create students who are passionate, empowered, and prepared for their world and their future

Our school district works hard to ensure that our students develop curiosity for learning, enthusiasm for asking questions and seeking answers, passion for exploring ideas. Those of us who work in the district, and those of us who support the district, have a responsibility to make sure that our students are prepared with the skills that they will need to thrive. Reading, writing, math, collaboration, asking questions - our students need all these skills.

Our responsibility is to create a system that helps our students develop these skills and attributes.

But our students' passion and their preparation are meaningless if they do not have the confidence to act. We want our students to be empowered to step up, step in, and make a difference.

But how does a school district do these things?

First, we have to have good people. We invest deeply in hiring and developing our staff. We want the best people working for our district.

Second, we must invest in our educational programs and facilities so that our students have every opportunity to succeed. Our community has been very supportive of investing in our educational programs and facilities to create school facilities that support our district's vision.

On Nov. 5, 2019, the district is coming back to the community to ask our community to continue supporting our vision and to continue making Novi a great place for students. Two proposals will be on the ballot for Novi voters.

First, we are asking the voters to approve a bond program that will continue to support our district's vision of creating passionate, empowered, and prepared students.

The \$185 million dollar proposal will decrease the current millage rate to 6.75 mills and allow the district to build a new Meadows 5/6 building, add dedicated robotics space to the high school, add a Novi Activities Center at the high school, create safe and secure entries at every building, update media centers, add collaboration spaces, and take care of roofs, HVAC, doors, windows, and parking lots.

A full explanation of the proposed bond can be found on the school district website at www.novi.k12.mi.us/district/bond.

The second proposal is to renew our current sinking fund. First approved by voters in 2000, the sinking fund generates approximately 1.1 million dollars a year for repairs to district facilities.

The sinking fund allows the district to keep money in the general fund to support our classrooms and educational programs.

The Novi Community School District was recently rated the number one school district in Michigan. It is a destination for excellence! The bond and sinking fund proposals on the ballot on November 5, 2019, will allow our district to continue supporting educational programs by continuing to maintain and enhance our facilities so that our district continues to be a destination for families and staff.

Steve M. Matthews, Ed.D., is the superintendent of the Novi Community School District. He can be reached at steven.matthews@novik2.org.

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### Bond

**Continued from Page 1A** 

Some of the highlights of bond work would include:

Renovations to all buildings to create sally ports from the front door right into the main office.

This would require all visitors have contact with employees, instead of entering and being able to walk through the building.

"Everyone has to see a person before they get into the building is standard protocol," Matthews said.

Improved door locks, ones that could be locked or unlocked remotely offsite. A new building for

Elementary, Meadows 25299 Taft, to reunite the fifth and six graders that are currently in separate buildings on the campus. It would replace the current structure built in 1971, which would be used for other uses.

A dedicated robotics space at Novi High School, 24062 Taft. That space would allow for not only students in the high school, but middle and elementary school students as well.

The creation of a new activity center built on the practice field near the high school.

It would be a multi-use space for groups such as marching band and various athletic teams, as well as a place that could be used by the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services programming.

Other work would also ake place depending on he building. A detailed



Voters will decide Nov. 5 on a Novi Schools bond. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

community and you say, 'if you're willing to continue paying that millage, we'll extend it out and that will generate revenue for the district."

If the bond were not approved, voters would still end up paying a lower millage rate, closer to 5.5 mills, but such improvements are crucial enough where the district

asking for a raise in the

rate once it drops, Mat-

thews said.

#### **Sinking fund**

In addition to the bond proposal, the district is also asking voters for a renewal on the sinking fund, which is used to help pay for capital improvements.

That renewal is levied at about 0.4731 mills, the same rate it's been at since 2001. Renewing the fund would keep it on the tax rolls until 2030.

"We generate about \$1 million a year," Matthews said. "If we didn't have that million dollars. we'd have to take it out of the general fund to fund those projects.

Matthews said the district has sent out mailings to all absentee voters to inform them of what the district plans to do with the money if the proposals are approved.

With the passage of Proposal 3 last year, which allows for no-reason absentee voting in

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rom 2007 are being paid ff," Matthews said. "So ow, you go back to the



says they're needed. Asking for a reduction in the current rate is a

Michigan, the absentee voter listed has quadrupled in size, going from 2,500 to around 10,000, Matthews said.

**Community meetings** have also taken place and continue through October to inform voters about the proposals.

A public forum will take place at 6 p.m. Oct. 21 in the district administrative offices.

"We believe this projects will continue to appeal to people who are interested in a high-quality education for their children by providing highquality facilities and programs in our district," Matthews said.

The polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 5.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### October 10, 2019

#### Re: Notification of Flood Hazard Mapping Revisions

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for a community depicts the regulatory floodplain, which is the area that has been determined to be subject to a 1% (aka "100-year") or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The floodway is the portion of the floodplain that includes the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land area that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation by more than a designated height. The FIRM is used to determine flood insurance rates and to help the community with floodplain management.

Matteo Engineering & Consulting, LLC is applying for a Conditional Letter of Map Revision CLOMR) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS-FEMA) on behalf of Suburban Haggerty Property 2, LLC to revise FIRM Panel No. 26125C0631F (September 29, 2006) for the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan along the Ingersol Creek (aka Townline Drain, Francis Drain). Matteo Engineering & Consulting, LLC is proposing to revise the FIRM to reflect new regulatory 1% annual chance "100-year") floodway boundaries north (upstream) of Regency Drive based upon more up-to-date and detailed hydrologic and hydraulic information.

The City of Novi Department of Community Development, in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program regulation 65.7(b)(1), hereby gives notice of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan intent to revise the 1% annual chance ("100-year") loodway, along the Ingersol Creek generally located north of Regency Drive. As a result of this CLOMR, the floodplain shall narrow and the floodway shall shift within the area of revision.

This CLOMR will also result in:

- Minor revisions to the 1% annual chance and 0.2% annual chance floodplain limits.
- Decrease in the 1% annual chance water surface elevations. 2
- Slight narrowing of the 1% annual chance floodplain. 3.

Maps and detailed analysis of the flood hazard revision can be reviewed at Novi City Hall at 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. If you have any questions or concerns about he proposed project or its effects, then please contact Mr. Charles Boulard, Community Development Director at coulard@cityofnovi.org.

Sincerely,

#### CITY OF NOVI

Mr. Charles Boulard, Community Development Director

#### Publish October 3, 2019

Jerry Hill, VP Consumer Sales & Marketing

## Northville school earns national honor

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

(Editor's note: Due to a printing error, this story did not appear in its entirety in the Oct. 3 edition of the Northville Record.)

Northville's Amerman Elementary School was named last week as one of the 2019 National Blue Ribbon schools by the U.S. Department of Education.

The school was among 362 schools nationwide recognized as National Blue Ribbon schools for 2019.

The recognition is based on the school's high performance as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. Amerman is among the 13 Michigan schools and two Wayne County schools being recognized this year.

The coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

Building on a long-standing history of academic excellence, Amerman staff, together with students and families, embarked on a journey to grow and deepen its culture of learning and leadership through a more intentional focus on school culture, student agency, and working collectively toward a shared vision.

In March 2019, Amerman achieved Lighthouse school status under the International Leader in Me program, a benchmark that recognizes outstanding results in school and student outcomes.

"We are proud of the work of our teachers, staff members, students and families at Amerman Elementary for their work to foster a culture of learning and leadership," said Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher. "Across Northville Public Schools, we are committed to continuing our journey to open a world of possibilities for and with each and every learner.

'This national recognition showcases the outstanding outcomes that can result from bringing students, teachers, parents and families together with a collective focus on learning and unleashing the leader-



Amerman Principal Devon Caudill speaks to students at a recent assembly. COURTESY NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ship capacity and potential within every learner."

Now in its 37th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 9,000 schools. On November 14 and 15, representatives from Northville Public Schools and Amerman Elementary School will join the Department of Education at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Contact Ed Wright at 517-375-III3 or eawright@ hometownlife.com.

Building on a long-standing history of academic excellence, Amerman staff, together with students and families, embarked on a journey to grow and deepen its culture of learning and leadership through a more intentional focus on school culture, student agency, and working collectively toward a shared vision.

## Poetry, art walks taking place in South Lyon

The Cultural Arts Commission of South Lyon is hosting a poetry walk beginning at 3 p.m. Oct. 16 beginning at the **True Value Hardware**, 415 E. Lake in South Lyon.

An art walk will also take place at 3 p.m. Nov. 16 at the corner of Lake Hardware Store; M.L. Liebler, wrote about bicycles for South Lyon Cycle; Deanne Lundin considered the history of coffee for The Corner Caffe; Scott Russell, wrote about filling absences for **Tenpenny Furniture; Lisa** Powers targeted luxury

for State Farm Insurance Agency; Patrick Karickhoff concerned himself with honest men for Norm's Total Automotive Service and finally, Joe Matuzak reported the loss of teeth in dreams for East Lake Dental. Joe Matuzak served as editor work, artists, and how these masterworks fit into the American artistic landscape.

"I never knew that Sources of Country Music, was the last painting **Thomas Hart Benton ever** painted in his life. It's so full of life and vibrant. I

masters."

Besides the South Lvon City Council members and Mayor Dan Pelchat, and City Manager Paul Zelenak, who all aided in its planning and support, both Ron Brock and Marianne Jamison from the Department of Public Works worked tirelessly to have the artworks framed and installed, Ken Michalik, vice chair of the commission, designed the bro-

chures and posters on time, Patricia Tiernan, accountant for the city. and Bob Donahue, Downtown Development Authority director, all contributed their time and expertise on this project. Also, KV Sports donated \$90 toward the metal

Street and Reynold Street Parkway at Paul Baker Park as part of the fulfillment of a grant received from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, administered by the Anton Arts Center.

The grant supports interaction with local businesses to enhance the visual perception of the South Lyon downtown area. It does so by underwriting poets to create and enlarge poems about eight businesses, also by building and installing frames that display laminated artworks from the National Endowment for the Humanities "Picturing America" project.

Each store will be visited, with the owner or representative welcoming the audience and introducing their business. Then, each poet will be introduced and read their poem. Eight businesses in all will be visited.

The Poetry Walk commences at True Value Hardware in South Lyon. Poet Kathleen Leo wrote about a love of hammers for Peter's True Value

for A & E Diamond Jewelers; Josie Kearns pondered the risk for diamonds, legs, alien abduc-

**General Election** 

Published: October 10, 2019

The Art Walk will focus on the surprising history tions and living forever and biography of the art-

**CITY OF NORTHVILLE** 

PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Election Commission will meet on October 14, 2019 at 8:15

a.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W.

Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300, to conduct business related to the November 5, 2019 City

General Election will be conducted as part of this meeting.

The public accuracy test is conducted to demonstrate that

the computer program used to record and count the votes

DIANNE MASSA, CMC, CITY CLERK

**\*NOTICE OF SALE\*** 

Pursuant to Michigan Statute 570 - Self-Service Storage

Facility Act: Novi Office & Warehouse LLC will hold a public

sale of delinquent units in order to satisfy the owner's lien.

Each unit will be sold by competitive bidding to the highest

ELECTION COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

cast at the election meets the requirements of Election law.

Notice is hereby given that the City of Northville

The Public Accuracy Test for the November 5, 2019 City

Series.

of the Art and Commerce am curious to hear what place others had in American history," Kearns said. "I think the residents here really deserve this fine collection of American

plaques on the artworks that denote the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Arts Commission as sponsors.

#### **CITY OF NOVI** PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.288 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: ARTICLE 2, DEFINITIONS: ARTICLE 3, SECTION 3.1.11 "B-2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT": ARTICLE 3. SECTION 3.1.12 "B-3 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT"; ARTICLE 4. SECTION 4.10 "PLACES OF WORSHIP": ARTICLE 4. SECTION 4.12 "GROUP DAY CARE HOMES, DAY CARE CENTERS, AND ADULT DAY CARE CENTERS": ARTICLE 4. SECTION 4.27 "RETAIL BUSINESS AND SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS": IN ORDER TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN USES AS SPECIAL LAND USES IN THE B-2 AND B-3 DISTRICTS, CLARIFY ORDINANCE LANGUAGE, AND OTHER ITEMS DEEMED NECESSARY.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing. The proposed text amendment is available for examination and review at the Planning Division of the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Any written comments must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, October 30, 2019.

Novi Planning Commission Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: October 10, 2019

bidder for cash only. All property in the storage unit contains household items unless otherwise mentioned. Novi Office & Warehouse will conduct this auction online at Bid13 com. Location: 22222 Roethel Drive, Novi, Michigan 48375. Excellent Service | Competitive Prices | Accepting New Patients Bidding will Begin on Monday, October 7 at 12:00pm. All Bidding will end on Monday, October 21 at 12:00pm. Unit Personalized Hearing Care, Inc. 45, Anthonee Motley. Upholstered Chairs, Lg. Truck Tool Bin, toys, miscellaneous items in bags. Audiology and Hearing Aids

#### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.290 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: ARTICLE 2.0 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.2 DEFINITIONS; ARTICLE 3.0 ZONING DISTRICTS, SECTION 3.1 DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED, TO UPDATE THE HOTEL TERMINOLOGY IN APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF B-2, B-3, C, EXPO, EXO, FS, I-2 I-1, OSC, OST, RC, TC, TC-1 AND PD-2 ZONING DISTRICTS: ARTICLE 4.0 USE STANDARDS, SECTION 4.28 HOTELS, MOTELS AND TRANSIENT LODGING FACILITIES: ARTICLE 5.0 SITE STANDARDS, SECTION 5.2.12 OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES: IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF HOTEL, REVISE THE MINIMUM PARKING AND LOADING AREA REQUIREMENTS FOR HOTEL USE.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing. The proposed text amendment is available for examination and review at the Planning Division of the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Any written comments must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, October 30, 2019.

Novi Planning Commission

Michael Lynch, Secretary

10.00

Publish October 10, 2019

**CITY OF NOVI** 

Publish: October 10 & 17, 2019



4A I THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 I O& EMEDIA (NNNR)



Holmes Middle School students listen during a presentation at Linear AMS during Manufacturing Day on Friday in Livonia. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

### Manufacturing Day

**Continued from Page 1A** 

"I think it's really important they see real-world applications for the things that they're learning," said Mitchell, who also coaches the Stevenson High School hockey team. "Especially a day like today, where they can go out and experience the different opportunities that are available to them."

Manufacturing Day is a national event that's been put on for several years to bring attention to manufacturing and the opportunities it presents to students, especially as many companies face labor shortages.

Students from all the districts toured several companies across Livonia Friday, including McLaren, Roush Clean Tech, Linear AMS and AlphaUSA to learn more about the industry. Students were also set to gather at Schoolcraft College late Friday morning to hear U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens, D-Rochester Hills, discuss the importance of manufacturing as well.

Joe Gonzales, a technical specialist at Linear AMS who has worked with 3-D printing at the company for five years, said it was exciting to see so many students show up to learn about what the company does.

"I think this is the wave of the future," he said. "This is eventually what manufacturing is going to be mostly about, at least in the parts-producing realm." dveselenak@hometownlife.com



The top of a gearshift for a Ford Mustang, as made at Linear AMS in Livonia.



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The Staff at Sound Advice Audiology

1 Individual replacement needs may vary. Duration of device battery life varies by patient and is subject to individual ear conditions. 2 Professional fees may apply. Annual subscription begins the first day of trial. Lyric is not appropriate for all patients. See a Lyric provider to determine if Lyric is right for you

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## **Pedestrian dies after** being struck in Lyon Twp.

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A 22-year-old Genoa Township man died from his injuries after a vehicle struck him Thursday night while he was walking in the Grand River Avenue roadway in Lyon Township, according to Oakland County sheriff's deputies.

They said in a report that Lyon Township firefighters responded to the crash near the Asbury Hill Drive intersection around 10 p.m. Paramedics immediately began treating the injured pedestrian.

He was transported in grave condition to Ascension Providence Hospital in Novi, where he died.

Members of the sheriff's crash reconstruction unit said, based on a preliminary investigation, a 40-year-old Lyon Township woman was driving a 2003 Ford Taurus east on Grand River Avenue when she struck the pedestrian, who was walking in the roadway with a friend.

The pedestrian apparently was not in designated crosswalk an was not a wearing reflective clothing.

There were no streetlights nearby. Alcohol and drugs do not seem to be factors in the crash.

Contact Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.



The trial of former priest Patrick Casey began Oct. 2. SUAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## **CSC trial for former Canton**, Westland priest underway

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Susan Vela Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN** 

A former Canton and Westland priest's third-degree criminal sexual conduct trial began Wednesday in downtown Detroit.

Patrick Casey, 56, faces up to 15 years in prison if convicted of the felony charge.

"This case turns on one word (and) that is coercion," prosecuting attorney Danielle Joyce Hagaman-Clark said during opening statements. "You're going to hear a case about the abuse of power, the abuse of position and the abuse of authority.

Ordained in 1997, Casey is accused of engaging in sexual acts, including oral sex, with a man in his 20s at the former St. Theodore of Canterbury Church in Westland.

Casey's alleged crimes apparently were committed in January 2013, about five months after he moved to the Westland church from St. Thomas A Becket Catholic parish in Canton.

An affidavit stated that Casey's victim was a man who sought spiritual guidance from the priest. Their sexual encounter in Casey's church office followed, by several weeks, the man's unsuccessful suicide attempt. The man had wrapped a cord around his neck.

"(He) was struggling with a lot of issues," Hagaman-Clark said. "He had some significant mental health issues. including an obsessive compulsive disorder, and high - very high - anxiety. He will tell you that he was struggling with his own faith and his own reality that he lived in being a gay man."

Hagaman-Clark said the man was born and raised as a Lutheran but strayed from those religious tenets. Concerned about what would happen to him and his faith, he reached out to Casey

They exchanged emails about moral, theological and spiritual issues, and eventually the man wanted to become a Catholic. Simultaneously, he was struggling with Catholic doctrine frowning on same-sex relationships.

He ended a six-year relationship with another man and, telling Casey about the breakup, asked to meet with the priest. The man had been struggling with chastity, lustful thoughts for men and concerns about eternal damnation and wanted to confess to a priest.



Casev

Another priest had denied this request because the man was not a fullfledged Catholic. Casey agreed to meet on Jan. 17, 2013. "What does that de-

fendant do, in that position of authority?" Hagaman-Clark asked. "Does he turn him away? No. He doesn't. He performs a sex act on this kid who has said 'I have to live a chaste life.' The defendant uses that to his own advantage by manipulating this young man into a sex act."

Defense attorney Stephen Rabaut acknowledged the friendship between the priest and young man in early 2012. He said they met about every three weeks, but always because the young man "brought about" the meetings.

Rabaut classified their relationship as more friendly than spiritual; their sexual encounter, consensual.

"Early on in the relationship, (he) told Patrick Casey that he was gay," Rabaut told the jury. "Eventually, the conversations between the two of them became more sexualized. Ultimately, in January of 2013, they are together. A sexual encounter occurs between the two. Basically, they end up performing oral sex on one another."

The young man wanted "the sexual relationship to go farther." The priest refused.

"Please don't jump to conclusions after the first witness or the second witness," Rabaut said.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel named Casey as one of five former priests charged with 21 counts of criminal sexual conduct in May.

His jury will be a panel of 14: six men and eight women. Two will be dismissed for the deliberations.

According to the affidavit, Catholic Church officials heard from the young man several years later. The Archdiocese of Detroit conducted a formal investigation and interview with Casey, where Casey admitted to the sexual acts

Officials recommended Casey's dismissal from the clerical state, and the Archdiocese agreed on Aug. 1, 2018. They said Casey "took advantage of someone who was vulnerable.

Contact Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.



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6A & THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 & O& EMEDIA (NNNR)

## Should senior pay cash or mortgage on condo?



Money Matters Rick Bloom Guest columnist

#### **Dear Rick**:

I have a question that I hope you can help me with. I am in my early 60s and retired. My financial situation is very secure. I have no dependents and I am single. My pension more than covers all of my living expenses. At this point I have not touched my Social Security and don't plan to until I'm 70. I have a nice size portfolio in the high six figures. About one-third of that money is in my IRA.

Currently, I own a home that's worth approximately \$375,000. I own the home free and clear without a mortgage. My situation is, I would like to move. As opposed to a home, I would like to buy a condo. I have a good idea where I want to live and the condos in the complex I am looking at go for anywhere between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

I have not had a mortgage for over a decade and I would like to pay cash for my new condo. I would like your opinion on that. My friends all say that I should get a mortgage. My second question is, I want to use the proceeds from the sale of my house to pay for my condo. I would prefer not to have to liquidate any of my investments. My question is do you have any ideas if I see a condo I like but have not sold my home?

#### Thank you, Jeremy

Dear Jeremy:

I get this a lot that some people think that you should automatically get a mortgage for a home; I'm not one who believes that. Yes, in certain situations buying a home can have certain tax advantages; however, what people need to keep in mind is that even with the tax advantages there's still a cost to obtaining a mortgage.

For example, if you did get a mortgage, you could easily pay \$8,000 a year in interest. If you were able to deduct your interest on your tax return it would save you approximately \$2,000. However, what that means is that the mortgage, as opposed to costing you \$8,000, is still costing you \$6,000. Every year you have the mortgage there would be a significant economic cost no matter what the tax write-offs are. In addition, let's not forget that mortgages are not free.

There are substantial fees and costs that go with the mortgage that you would not have if you paid cash. Therefore, when people tell you should automatically get a mortgage, all they're focusing on is the \$2,000 of savings, not the \$6,000 and all the fees and costs that that mortgage would cost you. Therefore, in your situation in being retired, I see no problem whatsoever paying cash for your condo; particularly, because you don't want a mortgage.

I believe that when it comes to money too many people let the tax tail wag the dog. You should not make financial decisions based upon taxes and taxes alone. I have always said when you make decisions purely based upon taxes, you generally make the wrong decision. I think you need to look at the total financial picture and something probably even more important, particularly in the situation at hand, and that is comfort.

We should never forget that the purpose of money is to buy us comfort and security. Particularly, someone who is in as good of financial shape as Jeremy, comfort and security is the most important issue. Therefore, the fact that he doesn't want a mortgage and he would feel more comfortable without one should be the prime concern, not taxes.

With regards to the timing issue of seeing a condo that you want before you sold your existing home, you have a couple different options. You can take a mortgage or a home equity loan on your current home for the price of the new condo and use that to pay cash for the new purchase. Then, when you sell your existing home you would use the procéeds to pay off the mortgage. In that way you would only have a mortgage for a relatively short period of time until your home sold. My view is that either the mortgage or a home equity loan would work for you. The key to me is what the cost is of the mortgage or the home equity loan. I would choose the one where you have the least out-ofpocket costs as possible. In some situations, with mortgages you can get a nofee mortgage by paying a little higher in interest. As far as I'm concerned, since your mortgage would be outstanding only for a short period of time, paying a little extra interest would be preferable than paying the cost and fees up front. Another option would be to take out a mortgage on the new condo and then once your existing home sells, to use those proceeds to pay off the mortgage. The key is to get a mortgage that has the least possible out-of-pocket expenses. In addition, you can also go with an adjustable rate mortgage because more likely than not, before you have an adjustment you would sell your house thus, paying off the mortgage.

Mortgages are a great way to finance the purchase of a home; however, it's not for everyone. Particularly, for someone who is retired and considering the new tax law, mortgages are not as beneficial as they used to be.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. Email him at Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

## **OCC chancellor talks college's millage renewal**

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Voters across Oakland County will see a millage renewal from Oakland Community College on their ballot this November. A successful renewal would allow the college to continue levying 0.745 mills. or \$0.745 for



Provenzano

every \$1,000 of taxable dollars, from the year 2022 through 2031.

OCC Chancellor Peter Provenzano said the millage accounts for about 27 percent of the college's budget and brings in



about \$45 million annually.

"This is an operating millage and it really covers all aspects of the college," he said.

Because the proposal is a renewal, taxpayers wouldn't see an increase in their taxes if this was approved. Provenzano added the renewal would help the school keep its tuition at the lowest rate for any community college in Michigan.

"This is a renewal, so it will not increase the tax rate from what it today," he said. "We felt that was really important. We are trying very seriously to keep the cost of education down not only to our students but also to the taxpayers."

OCC's current millage expires at the end of 2021. After some consideration, Provenzano said school administration opted to propose a renewal now as opposed to stuffing it on a ballot during next year's presidential election where voters will have plenty of candidates and issues to keep track of.

If the proposal doesn't pass, officials said this would allow a chance to revisit the proposal, possibly alter the request and put it back on the ballot in 2020 or 2021.

Students sit in class at Oakland Community College. Voters across Oakland County will see a millage renewal from OCC. COURTESY OF OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

"Because we plan ahead and do fiveyear forecasts, we thought it would be important to put this on the ballot early on," Provenzano said.

Because of the school's partnerships with nearby institutions like the Detroit Institute of Arts and Walsh College along with its programs that teach firefighters, police, nurses and culinary professionals in the community, Provenzano said he feels OCC is something that benefits the whole county.

"We really see ourselves as a convener," he said. "We just bring people together and have a role in the community that no one can do the way OCC does." To learn more about Oakland Community College's millage renewal proposal, visit its website at oaklandcc.edu/millage2019.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter at @shelby\_tankk.



## **Oakland County deputies dispatched** ... for coffee

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Oakland County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to more than 10 locations Wednesday ... for coffee.

It was National Coffee with a Cop Day, and deputies spent their mornings with community members.

The goal was to break down barriers, and that certainly seemed to be happening at the Biggby Coffee store in New Hudson.

"Most people so far just seem to be kind of doing their thing," Deputy Dan Manier said. "They come and get their coffee and move on."

Eventually, the Oakland County deputy of about 15 years started conversing with a customer, Nick Kosmas, about their jobs and families.

"I appreciate it," Kosmas said. "I ap- too.

preciate what they do for the community, ... knowing that they're out, putting themselves out there and and they're interacting with the community."

Wednesday was the fourth annual National Coffee With a Cop Day, a nationwide endeavor started by the U.S. Department of Justice and its Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

The goal is to bring communities closer together.

Karissa Canfield, owner of the Biggby Coffee store in New Hudson, said she wanted to participate in the national celebration. She said it's a great way to feel connected to the community.

"Even if they're just driving through, we wave to (those with the) sheriff's department," Canfield said. "We just feel great that they're here for us."

She hopes to participate next year,

## Meet one of Michigan's oldest residents

Sheiby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

"How old am I?" "110."

"Wow. That's a long time." Born in 1909, Regina Varrero turned 110 on Sept. 28 and is known as a supercentenarian. One of just a few people of

centenarian. One of just a few people of her age in the state, Varrero resides at Beaumont Commons in Farmington Hills.

She said her secret of making it all these years is laying off the cigarettes and booze.

"I don't smoke. I don't drink," she said. "I think a drank more when I was young."

She's been a tough lady all her life. After her dad died when she was only five or six years old and her mother passed away a few years later, Varrero started taking care of herself when she was 13 years old by getting a job at a hotel in Rogers City.

"She was 13 years old when she went there," said Pam Pederson, one of her grandchildren. "She heard that they were hiring people and she lied and told them she was 16 so they would give her a job."

"I worked as long as they didn't find out my age and then I had to leave," Varrero added.

Eventually, a priest found her out and sent her to live with some family he had in Bay City.

She lived there and continued to do so after meeting her first husband, David Fagan, when she was 19 years old. The two were together through the Great Depression and had three kids: Judy, Sandy and Rod.

"When the Great Depression came, the two started a produce route and grandpa hauled the produce to these camps and they made a lot of money," Pederson said.

Because of that job and a side-gig of bootlegging by Fagan, the two didn't want for anything during what was a trying time for many Americans.

"Our grandpa had a lot of interesting connections apparently," Pederson said. "They never wanted for anything."

But, some of Fagan's professional endeavours landed him in jail. Varrero left him when he got out and later remarried.

Though she and and her second husband divorced when Varerro was in her 80s, her eight grandchildren, greatgrandchildren and great-great-grandchildren have been her world. "She made her family her life," Pederson said. "Her grandkids, her children. Her grandkids, oh my God her grandkids. They were her life, she was totally devoted to them. I think that's what brought her her happiness." Pederson said when she and her cousins were growing up, Varrero was at the center of every family gathering.



Above, Regina Varrero, 110, says her secret of making it all these years is laying off the cigarettes and booze. At top right, Varrero has long been known in her family has the host of big dinners. Above at right, Varrero got her first job at age 13, but she lied and told the employer she was 16 so she could get the job. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE VARRERO FAMILY AND PAM PEDERSON



"She used to have a lot of family dinners on Sunday just to have everyone together," Pederson said. "I don't know how she did it. She'd cook us all a big dinner."

As a grandmother, Pederson said Varerro would always make crafts for her family, make homemade waffles for breakfast and take the kids fishing up on her cottage in Lake City.

Her other interests back in the day included gardening, composting, bingo and following the Detroit Tigers, her favorites of which are Miguel Cabrera, Prince Fielder, Alan Trammell and Willie Horton.

"I just like them because I got to see them once in a while," Varerro said. "If I didn't, I had the radio."

Last week, her family got together to celebrate the supercentenarian's achievement, something only a few hundred living people in the United States have done.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter at @shelby\_tankk.

Born in 1909, Regina Varrero turned 110 on Sept. 28 and is known as a supercentenarian. One of just a few people of her age in the state, Varrero resides at Beaumont Commons in Farmington Hills. Last week, her family got together to celebrate her 110 years.

Five generations of the Varrero family: Regina Varrero, seated at left, and her daughter Sandy Jahner, sits next to her. In the back, from left, are Amy Blauvelt, Brittany Larson, Reese Larson and Michael Blauvelt. COURTESY OF PAM PEDERSON

SA I THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 I O& EMEDIA (NNNR)

## First Watch brings breakfast to shopping center

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

It's been a long time coming, but the newest shopping center in Livonia will soon start seeing business in the coming weeks.

The first shop to open in the new Haggerty Center shopping center off Haggerty between Seven Mile and Eight Mile will open later this month. First Watch, a breakfast-and-lunch restaurant that has locations across the country.

The Florida-based restaurant is known for its specialty breakfasts and lunches. It'll open Oct. 14, the first shop in the center to open its doors to the public. It's open from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. every day.

"We have a menu that's very portable," said Eleni Kouvatsos, a spokeswoman for First Watch. "People are receptive to it all across the board."

The restaurant chain has a location in Shelby Township and two in Troy, including one right on the Troy/Birmingham border at Maple and Coolidge Highway.

The restaurant continues to hire employees. Those interested can apply online at firstwatch.org/careers.

Kouvatsos said the company has been serving brunch for several decades, and has started to expand into places like Michigan. Such restaurants have seen an increased presence across the region in recent years, something she attributed to trends in dining.

"I know that the breakfast segment has been growing the past 6-7 years. Consumers are now just gravitating toward the brunch trend," she said. "It's a social occasion in addition to a meal."

#### Shopping center update

The opening of First Watch begins the first openings at the center that's been discussed for several years.

The first talk of replacing the former technical center with a shopping center came in 2015, though those original plans fell through. A new developer, AF Jonna Development, then came in a made a new proposal for a mixed-use development. That plan was ultimately approved by the city council last year and work has taken place to prepare the site for construction.

Mark Taormina, the city's director of planning, said the plan, the first of its kind in Livonia, is one that fits that area of town, especially as several new medical developments take place nearby by both Beaumont and the St. Joseph Mercy Health System.

There is going to be a market for this kind of development," he said. "We're confident that there will be demand for this type of housing."

He said he was unsure of what other businesses were planned in the shopping center, but said development of the apartment buildings on the property closer to Interstate 275 would begin soon and continue into 2020.

"They are working on the underground for that project," Taormina said. "You'll probably see some sort of foundation work done before the end of the year."

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.



The first business at the new Haggerty Road development is the breakfast and lunch diner First Watch, which jokingly boasts to prospective employees that there are "no night shifts ever." JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The Inspire Theatre cast of "Young Frankenstein" poses for a photo. The musical adaptation of Mel Brooks' film runs Oct. 18 through Nov. 3. COURTESY OF LEN FISHER

## **Monster-sized musical coming to Inspire Theatre**

"Transylvania Mania" is about to take over Inspire Theatre in Westland, when Mel Brooks' hysterical musical comedy, "Young Frankenstein," hits the stage Oct. 18 through Nov. 3.

Eye-popping special effects and show-stopping musical numbers, complete with tap-dancing monsters, make this Inspire's most daring adventure yet.

The electrifying adaptation of Mel Brooks' monstrously funny film will be sure to leave the audiences in stitches. "Young Frankenstein" is based on the 1974 comedy film of the same name written by Mel Brooks and Gene Wilder, and directed by Brooks, who has described it as his best film.

The stage musical is a parody of the horror film genre, especially the 1931 Universal Pictures adaptation of Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein." "Young Frankenstein" premiered on Broadway in November 2007 and closed January 2009.

This wild romp of a musical takes us back to Transylvania, where Dr. Freder-



COURTESY OF PIONEER PLACE THEATRE

ick Frankenstein (pronounced "Fronken-steen"), the reluctant heir to the Frankenstein legacy, finds he has inherited the family business.

With the help of a hunchbacked sidekick, Igor, and the leggy lab assistant, Inga, Frederick finds himself in the shoes of his ancestors. Frederick is played by Canton resident Logan Laflin in his first production at Inspire. As the doctor, he discovers the secret entrance to his grandfather's laboratory, decides to carry on the family experiments, and creates a monster of his own.

Eventually, of course, the monster escapes and hilarity abounds.

Assisting the mad doctor in his transformation from a bumbling professor, Laflin is joined by Inspire veterans Trevor VanBuren, of Jackson, as Igor, Elizabeth Fisher as Inga, and Pat Rodgers, of Novi, portraying the mysterious Frau Blücher.

The role of Elizabeth, Dr. Frankenstein's madcap fiancée, will be played by longtime Inspire member, Courtney Nixon. Dave Durham of A Comedy Tonight fame fills the role of Inspector Kemp.

The original Broadway production was nominated for three Tony Awards and a Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album, in addition to winning the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical. The stage version follows the classic movie fairly well. "The cast is stellar, the sets are campy, the humor is bawdy, the tale is classic. What more could you want in a musical?" said Len Fisher, director and Wayne resident. "Our renovated auditorium will delight our regulars even before the curtain rises, metaphorically speaking. Our musicals typically sell out, so buy your tickets soon!"

"Young Frankenstein" features a book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan, with music and lyrics by Mel Brooks, and is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.

Inspire Theatre is located in the Westland Center for the Arts, at 33455 Warren Road in Westland. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 18,19, 25, 26, Nov. 1 and 2, with matinees Saturdays and Sundays at 3 p.m., Oct. 20, 26, 27, Nov. 2 and 3.

Tickets may be purchased at inspiretheatre.ticketleap.com or by calling the box office at 734.751.7057. Tickets are \$18. The show has a PG-13 suggestion for audiences.

(NNNR) HOMETOWNLIFE.COM I THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 I 9A

## **Eternity Brewing owners have big plans** Microbrewery's partners gear up to add kitchen, create new craft food menu

Jennifer Timar Livingston Daily USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

New owners of a Howell-area microbrewery have big plans in the works.

**Eternity Brewing Company co-owner** Trevor Brooks said he and his partners are gearing up to add a kitchen and working on creating a new craft food menu.

While their taproom serves snacks, they do not currently have a full kitchen at the establishment, at 4060 East Grand River Ave. in Genoa Township.

"We're still working on the menu," Brooks said. "We want to do very recognizable dishes and serve it in unexpected ways."

He said dishes such as pizza, sandwiches and nachos and "creative ingredients" will be on the menu.

The new kitchen will be installed in the rear of the building in an area that is currently being used for dry storage.

He said he hopes to have the kitchen up and running in the next four months or so.

The microbrewery is also planning to increase the size of its taproom, which currently seats up to 99 people.

Brooks said the plan is to remove part of a wall that divides the taproom and a three-barrel microbrewery system in the back of the building. The larger taproom will add about 40 seats. The renovation would increase the size of the taproom from about 2,200 square feet to closer to 3,000 square feet.

Brooks said expanding the tap room into the brewing space will make the brewing process more visible to customers. Currently, a series of windows look into the brewing space.

"We'll build a half-wall ... and a hightop bar running along it," and add tables, he said.

He said it will give customers a better view of the brewing process.

#### New owners build on the past

Four new business partners took ownership of the microbrewery in May. They are Brooks, his father-in-law Greg Klum, Ethan Whitesell and Brennan Brown.

Former owners and founders Dayna Trevor Brooks, one of four partners Tran and her husband Mike Tran who recently took over ownership of opened Eternity Brewing Company in Eternity Brewing, talks about the plans 2014. She had left an engineering job to pursue microbrewing and spent some time working for Witch's Hat Brewing Company in South Lyon.



ONE

She ran the day-to-day operations, while her husband continued working in engineering.

In 2017, the couple had a son. Dayna Tran decided to focus on being a stayat-home mom, according to a release from the microbrewery.

"After three years of planning and over five years in business, we wouldn't want to hand over the keys to just anybody," she said in the release. "We selected the perfect people to take it over from here and have worked closely with them for over a year."

Brooks said he and his partners have already made some changes, including booking live music.

Musicians have been performing there about twice a week.

"We're trying to build the entertainment value," Brooks said. "We have people reaching out for comedy acts."

The microbrewery has expanded its wine list. They serve wine from Howell's Mainstreet Winery. In the past, they typically served a white and a red wine from the winery.

Brooks said they now offer six different blends at any given time and serve flights of wine.

They now offer non-alcoholic options, including cold-brew coffee from

for improvements to the brewery. PHOTOS BY GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

Saugatuck Brewing Company and craft sodas.

All of their beers on tap are now available to go. Before the change in ownership, only a few could be purchased to go.

The new owners also signed up to be a Feelgood Tap brewery. Detroit-based Feelgood Tap is a community fundraising project for brewers and breweries that want to give back to their communities.

"Each month, we pick a beer and \$1 from the sale goes to charity," Brooks said.

He said the first six months of the year, they select which charities receive the funds. So far, they have donated funds to Howell Conference & Nature Center and the Humane Society of Livingston County. They plan to donate to Livingston County United Way. The other six months of the year, donations are pooled and granted to organizations selected by Feelgood Tap.

The new owners started out as regular customers, Brooks said.

"We were all tremendous fans of the beer that they made," he said. "That was, first and foremost, the one thing we didn't want to touch, the actual beer itself."



Eternity Brewing co-owner Trevor Brooks pours a rye IPA from the taps.



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John Angelopoulos has been the Chanter for Westland's Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church for the last 50 years. He was born in Greece. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Local looks back on 50 years of church chanting

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

"I can't stay home if the church is open. I can't, I've got to come here."

John Angelopoulos has been chanting for Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Westland for 50 years. In that time, four priests have come and gone through the church.

"And I'm still here," he jokes. Born in 1938 in Florina, Greece, Angelopoulos, who now lives in Livonia, learned how to chant from his father.

"My grandfather was priest, and my father was school teacher and chanter and a three-star in the Greek Army," he said. "So, chanting I learned from my father."

In his religious tradition, the chanter is like the right hand man of the priest during services.

"Music is a big part of our worship, chanting is a big part of our worship... The services are like a dialogue between the priest and the chanter," said Father Teodor Petrutiu, who has been working



Angelopoulos in the 1970s. COURTESY

with Angelopoulos for 12 years. "So, the priest reads prayers and the chanter responds."

After moving to the United States, the 81-year-old and his wife, Aspasia, started volunteering at the church. After nearly 62 years of marriage, the two are still together—he will proudly show you the original wedding ring on his finger and volunteer with the church in their own ways.

"Everybody loves Yaya, grandma, and Papa for tipping," Angelopoulos said. That's the life... She's a very handsome woman."

He sings and, though she can't always attend, Aspasia bakes bread for the church's liturgies.

"She bakes the church bread that we use for the liturgy, always, and John brings it to me," he said. "So she's still involved in her own way even when she can't come."

When he wasn't singing, Angelopoulos enjoyed singing and playing Greek music in his youth. Music has always had a big place in his life. Aside from singing, he plays accordion, guitar and piano.

"I like music, I like the chanting and

that starts here, in my heart," he said. "I still sing some songs, dancing and stuff like that. But the church is my number one."

These days, church is the only place he uses his talents.

"He's always here," Petrutiu said. "Always, always. No matter what we have, expected or unexpected, he's always here."

Even after all this time and having trained other chanters, Angelopoulos plans to stay on the job.

"I'm a church man," he said. "I read the Bible, I sing the Bible, I praise the Lord."

Petrutiu said the church congregation feels blessed to have had Angelopoulos serve them for so many years. As the Protopsalti, or First Chanter, the singer averages between 100 and 125 services every year.

"John has been an extraordinary asset to this church for many years, for more than you might expect," Petrutiu said. "It's not just his voice, but his wonderful personality."

## Meet Aer Head, Mindy Indy's latest comic book

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Since packing her bags for Brooklyn, New York, 2002 Churchill High School alumna Mindy Steffen has been making her way in the world as an independent cartoonist.

Her latest venture, the first comic book in her "Aer Head" series, is currently raising money on Kickstarter.

The cartoonist's pen name for her professional work is Mindy Indy.

She describes the project as a cross between the X-Men and 2002's film "Blue Crush."

The story follows the titular Aer and his friends as they try to save the world, and their home of San Diego, from a lifeending solar flare.

"He predicts an unnatural solar flare is going to wipe out the earth, so he uses his lifeguard skills to try and warn people and round up people," Steffen said.

Along with a few of his friends, Aer, the adopted son of aeronautical scientists, has superpowers.

"Aer Head' is a sci-fi comedy about a teen surfer and lifeguard named Aer. ... He has a power that he can sometimes see the future in his dreams, but not all of the time," Steffen said. "It's very sporadic and he can't control it."

Even though the characters are fighting to save the world as they know it, Steffen describes the project as a science fiction comedy.

Aer is a mostly laid-back surfer guy who is just as concerned about his relationship with his girlfriend as he is with the world's potential ending.

The project, which Steffen has been writing on and off for years, has already surpassed its first Kickstarter goal.

Donors who chip in before the Oct. 10 deadline can get everything from a digital copy to being drawn into the issue, depending on the amount.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter at @shelby\_tankk.



Above at left, the hero, Aer, goes forth to face his fate in Churchill High School graduate Mindy Indy's latest com's book series, "Aer Head." Mindy describes it as a mix between X-Men and "Blue Crush." IMAGES COURTESY OF MINDY INDY

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#### USA TODAY SPORTS



## Northville girls CC finishes second at Portage Invite

On Saturday the Northville girls cross country team split its team, sending the Varsity 7 to Portage and the Portage Invite and the Varsity B and the reserves to the Wayne County Invite.

Sports

On a day that was perfect running conditions, the Mustangs showed their depth. At the Portage Invite, which brings in the top teams and serves as a preview for the state finals, the Mustangs finished in second place with 148 points behind No. 1 ranked Ann Arbor Pioneer, which had 93 points.

The Mustangs were led by Yasmine Mansi, who finished in fifth place in 18:23, Emily Gordon (19th in 18:51), Keira Courtney (29th in 19:15), Onivas Tupa (38th in 19:32) and Jennie Line (68th in 20:00). "I was super excited how the girls performed today, throughout the entire race they continued to make moves and gain confidence," Northville girls cross country head coach Nancy Smith said. "This is a great meet which the girls enjoy. The competition is great and if gives them a feel of what the state meet will be like and serves as a training and learning meet for what we need to do over the next three weeks."

At the Wayne County meet, the Mustangs finished in fifth place, with Plymouth winning the meet and Salem placing in second.

The Mustangs were led by junior Janie DeGroot in a career PR by 30 seconds, finishing 32nd in 20:26 and earned AllWayne County. Next in was Elise Jund in 37th in 20:45, Caroline Gillingham (39th in 20:53: a personal record), Jasmine Beltrame (44th in 21:08: a personal record), Samantha Rivera (57th in 21:35: a personal record), Kate Baker (63rd in 21:40) and Lindsay Afsari (72nd in 21:52).

"This group is filled with underclassman which is encouraging for future years," Smith said. "The girls continue to improve each meet which is so exciting, the continue to train hard and it is showing up in their races."

Northville was scheduled to run its last dual meet of the season against Novi on Tuesday at Cass Benton Park.

Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



The Varsity 7 on the Northville girls cross country team finished in second place at the Portage Invite. NANCY SMITH

## CC forfeits games after self-reporting ineligible player

Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The Detroit Catholic Central boys soccer team forfeited seven games last week after self-reporting to the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) that the team used an ineligible player.

The Shamrocks, who are considered



one of the top teams in the state, were ranked No. 7 overall in the Sept. 30 Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association (MIHSSCA) rankings. Now, their record sits at 5-9-4.

The seven games forfeited span from Aug. 29's game against Brother Rice to Sept. 21's game against Canton. CC had previously won six of the contests and tied one. Opposing teams were credited with a 1-0 win. The seven opponents were: Brother Rice (twice), U-D Jesuit (tied), Portage Central, Fenton, Rochester and Canton.

Catholic Central released the following statement to the MHSAA and Hometown Life:

"While conducting a routine review of transcripts, the Catholic Central Administration and Athletic Office uncovered a possible eligibility issue concerning a member of our varsity soccer team. As soon as we had knowledge of a possible violation, the student in question was immediately removed from competition until a full review could be completed.

After a thorough internal review, we determined that the student was not eligible for interscholastic competition. As a result, Detroit Catholic Central self-reported the violation to the MHSAA, which resulted in the forfeiture of seven varsity regular season competitions."

The MHSAA confirmed that CC selfreported the violation and that no further action will be taken following the forfeitures.

Reach Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Milford's Nick Briggs makes a tackle against South Lyon East. PHOTOS BY JERRY REA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## South Lyon East rains on Milford's homecoming



Milford's homecoming king and queen pose during halftime.

Tom Morelli Special to Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

With the way South Lyon East's offense moved the ball and scored points in Friday's game at Milford, you could say that it has all the 'Wright' stuff.

That's in large part to senior Donovan Wright, who tallied 163 yards on 21 carries and three touchdowns to spoil Milford's homecoming, 35-14.

"Donovan is a heck of a running back," East head coach Joe Pesci said. "He brings a lot of power and has gotten quicker this off-season. You can see a bit more speed and he's able to run away from guys. He's having a nice year for us and we're going to go as far as he can take us. When it comes down to it, we're going to give the ball to No. 26 as much as we can." A three-year starter, Wright moved into the running back position this season after spending the previous two at fullback.

Wright proved that he can still dish out his fair share of punishment, as he pulverized defenders on touchdown runs of 36, 7, and 45 yards in the first half.

To add insult to injury, Wright topped the 100 mark on the last run with 2:21 until halftime.

Wright talked about his last touchdown score, which ended up being the longest play of the contest.

"I credit my line because that's all them," Wright said. "I can't do anything without my line and they did a great job so I could score off of it."

See RAINS, Page 2B



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#### **HOMETOWN LIFE STAFF FOOTBALL PICKS: WEEK 7**

Sports reporters Andrew Vailliencourt and Colin Gay, news reporters Ed Wright and David Veselenak, and editor Phil Allmen make their weekly picks.

Games (home team listed first):	Andrew Vailliencourt	Colin Gay	Ed Wright	David Veselenak	Phil Allmen (coin flip)
Trey Athons VII. Boshoim	Secholm	Sashaim	Senitoim		
Stoney Creek vs. Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves
Walled Lake Mastern vs. South Lyon	Walled Lake Western	Walled Lake Westierri	Walled Late Western	South Lyon	Walled Lake Western
South Lyon East vs. Walled Lake Northern	Walled Lake Northern	South Lyon East	Walled Lake Northern	Walled Lake Northern	Walled Lake Northern
Lakeland vs. Waterford Kettering	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland
Catholic Central vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary s	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's
Brother Rice vs. Guerin Catholic	<b>Guerin</b> Catholic	Brother Rice	Brother Rice	Brother Rice	Brotheil Rice
Belleville vs. Livonia Stevenson	Belleville	Belleville	Belleville	Belleville	Livonia Stevenson
Fordson vs. Livonia Franklin	Franklin	Fordson	Foreinon	Franklin	Foucier
Hartland at Novi	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Novi
Northelis va. Plymbath	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Phymouth	Phymouth
Howell vs. Canton	Howell	Canton	Howell	Canton	Canton
Minole ve. Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigen
Wisconsin vs. Michigan State	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin
Texas vs. Oklehoma	Oklahoma	Oldahoma	Okiahoma	Oklahoma	Texas
Iowa vs. Penn State	lowa	Penn State	Penn State	Penn State	lowa
LSU ve.	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	Florida



South Lyon East running back Donovan Wright carries the ball against Milford. PHOTOS BY JERRY REA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE COM

## Rains

**Continued from Page 1B** 

If the Cougars (2-4 overall, 2-3 LVC) are able to keep pace like this, they'll have all the 'Wright' moves in place to close out the last three games.

"This is what we've been building up for," Wright said. "We've had a rough season so far and we know that we have to win out these last few games in order to make the playoffs. We came in here not thinking about the past, but focusing on the future and knowing that we be better and sharper and that's just what we did."

Here are three other takeaways from Friday's LVC clash:

#### Second-Half Surge

After seeing East institute a running clock on Desentz's second touchdown of the evening to begin the third quarter, Milford (1-5 overall, 1-5 LVC) responded immediately to slow the game back down.

Following two big runs by Trey Hayes and Blake Kerwin, the Mavericks found themselves in a first-andgoal situation.



Milford's Hunter Pillera throws a pass against South Lyon East.

turely by snagging the ball near the sideline and scampering past defenders for a 33-yard return.

Purdue vs. Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	
Minnesota vs. Nebrasio	Minnesola	Minesota	Nebraska	Minnesota	Minnecota	
Indiana vs. Rutg <del>e</del> rs	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	
Last Week's Record:	15-5	16-4	14-6	13-7	8-12	
Seeson Record:	90-29-1	94-25-1	88-31-1	87-32-1	58-61-1	

Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

We're back for another round of picks after an exciting sixth week of games.

Four of our staff reporters and our editor will be making picks on 20 games each week throughout the season. Games will be a mix of high school, college and pro, with a focus on local contests. Picks can be found below. (If the chart doesn't show up, wait a few minutes for it to download or try again on a desktop) If you have trouble viewing on Twitter mobile, copy the link and open in your internet browser, then delete the amp at the beginning of the URL.

Reach Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



South Lyon East's James Patrick returns an interception against Milford. JERRY REA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Milford finished their drive using the fumblerooski play from "Little Giants", with junior offensive lineman Caleb Holmes-McGahan putting the Mavericks on the board with a goalline plunge.

"If we had played the second half like the first half, we'd have been a lot better," Milford head coach Garfrey Smith said. "We're young and we're fixing our mistakes, but overall I think our guys played a really good game. South Lyon East has a great head coach and a good program. I expected a hard fought game and I'm proud of my guys."

On the ensuing kickoff, Milford caught the Cougars off-guard with a squib kick that would be scooped up by Hayes to begin another scoring drive.

While the Mavericks didn't use a trick play to score this time around, they did catch a break as quarterback Hunter Pillera's pass from 12 yards out was tipped by an East defender into the waiting hands of Benjamin Coloske with 9:41 left in the contest.

"We have a lot of weapons on offense from Ronnie Savage to Ben Coloske to Erik Kramer and Blake Kerwin," Smith said. "We also have a lot of younger weapons like Trey Hayes. It opens things up a lot and we like what we see coming up. Our back-up quarterback Billy Sternberg went out and played receiver and had two big catches at the end of the game. We're young and we're versatile and we're going to try a couple things to get that offense moving out there."

#### Going, Going, Gong

South Lyon East's tradition of striking the gong after forcing a turnover was alive and well, as they were able to nab three picks and scoop up a fumble.

"We banged the gong four times and it's always a goal to hit it at least once or twice a game," Pesci said. "When we get those turnovers though, we have to capitalize on the. We were able to score off of two of them, but we wasted a few opportunities there in the second half"

The first two turnovers led to scores, as junior cornerback Aiden Clark ended a Milford drive premaOn the first play from scrimmage, junior quarterback Zander Desentz punched it in up the middle from two yards out to give the Cougars a 21-0 advantage.

The next opportunity for East came on a Milford fumble near midfield that was recovered by junior defensive lineman Trevon Tyler.

Two plays later, the Cougars lengthened their lead on Wright's final touchdown run.

The last pair of turnovers came in the fourth quarter, with Clark and sophomore Braeden Tillman-Jones both coming up with their takeaways on third down.

Even with the win, Pesci said that he'd have liked a more textbook performance by his team on both sides of the ball in the second half.

"We just have to clean things up," Pesci said. "We have yet to play a perfect game and haven't played four quarters all season. We have some spurts where we're good like in the first half, and then we tend to have lapses and breakdowns."

#### **Finish Strong**

With the MHSAA changing its playoff points system this past off-season, teams no longer qualify for the playoffs automatically by reaching six wins.

Instead, the focus is more of strength of schedule rather than a team's win-loss record.

Under the new regime, East still has a chance to make the post-season as they round out their schedule against Walled Lake Northern, Waterford Kettering, and South Lyon.

Pesci said that the competition within the Lakes Valley Conference doesn't make his squad's road to the promised land any easier.

"We have three tough games to round out our season," Pesci said. "We have Walled Lake Northern and Waterford Kettering is having a heck of a year before finishing with the rivalry game against South Lyon. We're challenging the kids to take it week by week and focus on that opponent coming up.

"In this league if you look at the scores, each game is competitive and can go either way. We just have to take care of ourselves and we hope to be on the right end of the scoreboard for the next couple of weeks."

# HTL top 10 high school football teams: Week 7

#### Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Week 6 of the high school football season is complete, and Hometown Life Sports is back with its weekly top-10 teams in the area. Each week, we rank the top 10 teams in our coverage area based on record, strength of schedule, experience and of course, the game results. The ranking will be decided on by our two sports reporters: Andrew Vailliencourt and Colin Gay.

Here is the top 10 for week 7:

#### 1. Livonia Franklin (6-0, Last Week: No. 1)

Another week, another win. After securing head coach Chris Kelbert's 100th career win, the Patriots will face a huge challenge in Dearborn Fordson in Week 7, who only lost by one point to Belleville this past weekend.

#### 2. South Lyon (6-0, Last Week: No. 2)

Since its two one-score wins against Trenton and Lakeland, South Lyon has continued to rule the Lakes Valley Conference, earning dominant wins against Walled Lake Northern and Waterford Mott. This week, however, proves to be a test for the Lions, who will face a Walled Lake Western team whose only loss was to Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

#### 3. Plymouth (6-0, Last Week: No. 3)

Led by Mike Mathias in the backfield, Plymouth has not found trouble in KLAA West play, coming into Week 7 as the only undefeated team against conference opponents. That streak should continue into Week 8 as the WIldcats take on a 2-4 Northville team.

#### 4. Birmingham Groves (5-1, Last Week: No. 4)

After its loss to Oak Park, Groves has returned to its dominance, defeating its past two opponents — Troy Athens and Troy — by a combined 92-10. While the Falcons face a Rochester Hills Stoney Creek team with a winning record, the two-game win streak should turn into three, as Stoney Creak has lost both to Birmingham Seaholm and Oak Park.

#### 5. Farmington (6-0, Last Week: No. 5)

Farmington continued its offensive dominance, extending its 50-point streak to two games after the 51-24 win against Avondale this past Friday. The Falcons should extend their streak to seven against Berkley before a likely battle of undefeated rivals in Week 8.

#### 6. North Farmington (6-0, Last Week: No. 6)

The great run continued for the Raiders, beating Royal Oak 42-8. This week they take on Okemos before the ultimate showdown against Farmington.

#### 7. Detroit Country Day (6-0, Last Week: No. 9)

The Yellowjackets keep rolling along and improved to 6-0 with a win over Richland Gull Lake. At this point, they should be labeled as the clear division four favorites to win it all.

#### 8. Detroit Catholic Central (3-3, Last Week: No. 7)

It was a rough week for the Shamrocks, who are quite lucky to still be in these rankings following their 14-3 loss to De La Salle. They stay in though, thanks to losses by Brother Rice and Seaholm. It doesn't get any easier this week, with a tough game against Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

#### 9. Lakeland (4-2, Last Week: NR)

Lakeland started the season a little

slow, but has now won three straight games following its one-point loss to South Lyon. Friday, the Eagles put on an impressive performance, beating Divine Child 27-0.

Their only two losses are to South Lyon and Walled Lake Western, two of the better teams in the state.

#### 10. Livonia Churchill (2-4, Last Week: NR)

It feels strange to include a 2-4 team in the top 10, especially with a pair of 4-2 teams in Brother Rice and Seaholm available to slot here, but the record doesn't tell the whole story here.

The Chargers have played one of the most difficult schedules in the entire state, with losses to Brighton (5-1), Belleville (6-0), Fordson (5-1) and Franklin (6-0). The rivalry loss to Franklin coming in triple overtime. Last week, Churchill went on the road and pulled off a big upset, beating Dearborn 16-14. The team still has a lot to prove, but it will have a good opportunity to finish the regular season with three more wins and get into the playoffs.

The Hometown Life sports (HTL sports) area consists of 28 teams representing Catholic League (Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood), Independent (Detroit Country Day), the Oakland Activities Association (Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm, Farmington, North Farmington), the Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Garden City, Redford Thurston, Redford Union), the MIAC (Livonia Clarenceville, Lutheran Westland), the Kensington Lakes Activities Association (Canton, Livonia Stevenson, Salem, Novi, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Plymouth, Northville, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial) and the Lakes Valley Conference (White Lake Lakeland, South Lyon East, South Lyon, Milford). availlienc@hometownlife.com

#### FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

Here is a look at what the scores looks like for Hometown Life area high school teams in the sixth week of the football season.

#### Friday, Oct. 4

#### OAA

Birmingham Groves (5-1) 49, Troy (0-6) 0

Oak Park (5-1) 41, Birmingham Seaholm (4-2) 21

Lake Orion (5-1) 42, Bloomfield Hills (0-6) 6

Farmington (6-0) 51, Auburn Hills Avondale (3-3) 24 North Farmington (6-0) 42, Royal Oak

(1-5) 8

Lakes Valley Conference

South Lyon East (2-4) 35, Milford (1-5) 14

South Lyon (6-0) 51, Waterford Mott (3-3) 12

White Lake Lakeland (4-2) 27, Dearborn Divine Child (3-3) 0

Catholic High School League Detroit Loyola (3-3) 16, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingwood (3-3) 0 Warren De La Salle (3-3) 14, Detroit Catholic Central (3-3) 3

Western Wayne Athletic Conference Garden City (4-2) 45, Romulus (1-5) 0 Redford Thurston (5-1) 46, Melvindale (0-6) 0

Redford Union (4-2) 20, Dearborn Heights Robichaud (5-1) 14 MIAC

Pewamo-Westphalia (5-0) 49, Livonia Clarenceville (4-2) 8

#### KLAA

Canton (3-3) 28, Novi (1-5) 14 Livonia Churchill (2-4) 16, Dearborn (3-3) 14

Livonia Franklin (6-0) 42, Westland John Glenn (0-6) 7

Livonia Stevenson (3-3) 46, Wayne Memorial (0-6) 0

Brighton (5-1) 34, Northville (2-4) 0 Plymouth (6-0) 35, Hartland (3-3) 13 Howell (3-3) 65, Salem (0-6) 7 Other score of note: Belleville (6-0) 20, Fordson (5-1) 19

Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



#### **GAME OF THE WEEK**

## Franklin at Dearborn Fordson tops must-watch matchups

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan high school football season rolls into Week 7 after an eventful sixth week of the season. Here are six games to watch this week, including Hometown Life's Game of the Week: Livonia Franklin at Dearborn Fordson.

#### Livonia Franklin at Dearborn Fordson, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

One week after its three-overtime win against Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin got the convincing win it needed — a 42-7 win against Westland John Glenn, which was head coach Chris Kelbert's 100th career win for the Patriots — to remain undefeated.

Now the tough stretch begins.

Franklin will take on Dearborn Fordson on the road, a team that has only one loss: a 20-19 home loss to undefeated Belleville, who the Patriots will face

in Week 8.

Against KLAA East teams not named Belleville, the Tractors have outscored opponents 177-57, shutting out both John Glenn and Wayne Memorial.

Senior quarterback Jake Kelbert and the Franklin offense, which has scored more than 40 points in each of its six wins this season, despite scoring 28 points in regulation against Churchill, will see if it can keep up with junior quarterback Ali Beydoun and the sound Fordson offense.

Here are five other games to watch this week:

#### Detroit Catholic Central vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

Orchard Lake St. Mary's did something that not many teams have done against Brother Rice: score 44 points with five touchdowns in Week 6.

Now, the Eaglets' run-heavy offense will take on Detroit Catholic Central, a team that has a letdown of its own this past week. The Shamrocks scored three points, the lowest amount they have recorded all season, in a 14-3 loss to Warren De La Salle.

With a firm hold on second place in



Livonia Churchill and Franklin go head-to-head Sept. 27. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

the Catholic High School League Central, the Shamrocks, if they win, will have a rematch with St. Mary's in the Prep Bowl. If Catholic Central loses, the Shamrocks will have a three-way tie for second place, with the three other teams tied with a record of 1-2.

In the past two weeks, Catholic Central has scored only 10 points, lower than the stretch of two losses against Toledo Whitmer and Toledo Catholic Central in which the Shamrocks scored 13.

The Eaglets defense allowed the Brother Rice passing game to shine, as quarterback Greg Piscopink threw for 320 yards and two touchdowns this past week. The Shamrocks will just have to find a way to stop the St. Mary's running game.

#### South Lyon at Walled Lake Western, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

After two one-score wins against Trenton and White Lake Lakeland in the second and third weeks of the season, South Lyon has not seen much adversity. The Lions have scored more than 30 points in each of the past three games, beating opponents by at least 13 points in each of the wins. However, adversity has returned, as South Lyon will face its toughest opponent yet in Walled Lake Western.

The Warriors have scored more than 35 points each game this season, and has only one loss: a three-point loss to Orchard Lake St. Mary's on Sept. 20.

Since that game, Walled Lake Western has outscored Waterford Mott and Waterford Kettering 73-10 in the past two games.

With a road game against a team that many consider to be a deep playoff contender, South Lyon will have a chance to prove its undefeated record on Friday night.

#### Northville vs. Plymouth, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

The 2019 season has not been kind to Northville. After winning their first game of the season against Westland John Glenn, the Mustangs have lost four of their past five games, losing their last time out against Brighton 34-0.

Plymouth has rolled through its first six game of the season. Mike Mathias and Co. had two close wins back-toback against Canton and Brighton, but remain at the top of the KLAA West.

When facing Plymouth, though,

Northville seems to show up and make it competitive.

Plymouth has won its past two meetings with Northville, but each deficit has been within one score, with the Wildcats beating the Mustangs 17-10 last season.

#### Birmingham Groves vs. Rochester Hills Stoney Creek, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

After the Sept. 20 loss to Oak Park, Birmingham Groves has gotten back on track, defeating both Troy Athens and Troy by a combined score of 92-10.

Before the battle of second-place teams on Oct. 18 against Birmingham Seaholm, Groves will take on Rochester Stoney Creek, a team that has seemingly won games it has supposed to win.

Stoney Creek's two losses are to Seaholm and Oak Park respectively, both teams above the Cougars in the OAA White. Stoney Creek lost to the Maples by seven points, and fell to Oak Park by 13.

#### Farmington at Berkley, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

Farmington head coach Kory Cioroch was not pleased with the way his team played in the first half against Auburn Hills Avondale, leaving the field with a one-point lead.

The Falcons stepped it up in the second half, defeating Avondale 51-24 in their sixth win of the season. However, to get to where Farmington wants to be when it takes on currently undefeated North Farmington on Oct. 18, he said the team has to start faster.

Senior quarterback Max Martin and the Falcon offense has shown an ability to put points on the board, scoring 50plus points in each of Farmington's past two full games.

The Falcons will have the opportunity to do that against Berkley on the road Friday, a team that has allowed over 30 points in three of its five losses this season.

Contact Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-310-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

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6

Saginaw Heritage head coach Vonnie DeLong presents the championship trophy to the team after their 55-40 win over Southfield Arts & Technology at the MHSAA girls Division 1 final in March. DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE

## **Breslin will host MHSAA** girls finals if it's not NCAA site

Mick McCabe Special to Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

The high school girls basketball semifinals and finals are headed back to East Lansing and Breslin Center for the next three seasons — with some caveats.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has reached an agreement with officials from Michigan State, Western Michigan University and Hope College that would permit the girls tournament to be held at MSU unless the Spartans' women's team is one of the top 16 in the country and hosting the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament.

If Michigan State becomes an NCAA host site, the backup plan moves the girls semifinals and finals to Hope College in Holland. In the two seasons after that, the backup plan would shift the girls to Western Michigan. With MSU unavailable the past two years, the girls games were held at Calvin College's Van Noord Arena in Grand Rapids.

"There wasn't anything about moving them that we wanted," MSU women's basketball coach Suzy Merchant said. "It was just unfortunate the way the women's tournament works, which is unique compared to the men."

This is Mark Uyl's second year as the executive director of the MHSAA, and moving the girls semifinals and finals back to MSU has been on his to-do list.

"We can't thank the folks enough at Michigan State for looking at this through kind of (a) creative lens," Uyl said. "Certainly, we pull for the Spartans and want Suzy and her program to do well, to be able to host.

"The years they're not at home, for our girls to be able to get back on the same floor (as the boys) is just a really good thing."

The move back to Breslin will be extremely popular with the entire girls basketball community.

"I think it's great," said St. Ignace coach Dorene Ingalls, whose teams have won five state titles. "Calvin is a wonderful venue. Obviously there are some issues with parking and stuff, but as far as the venue, it's top-notch. If it were in the middle of the state, that would be the most perfect situation."

Breslin hosted the girls from 2010 to 2017, but the semifinals and finals were without a home after the NCAA allowed teams in the top 16 to host the opening two rounds.





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68 I THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 I O& E MEDIA (NNNR)

## LVC announces all-conference soccer team

#### **Andrew Vailliencourt**

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

With the conclusion of the Lakes Valley Conference soccer tournament, the league has released its all-conference team and honorable mentions.

South Lyon won the league's regular season title and Walled Lake Western won the tournament championship.

Here is the complete all-conference squad:

#### South Lyon

Jack Voight, junior, forward

- 🛚 Josh Mason, junior, defense
- Matthew Moore, senior, midfield
- Cade White, sophomore, forward
- I Jean Gamboa, junior, midfield

Shane Marinkovich, junior, midfield/goalie

#### Walled Lake Western

 Andrew Ramos, senior, defense
 Luke Karfis, junior, midfield/forward

- Bathie Boye, junior, defense
- Kieran Macbeth, sophomore, forward/midfield
  - Luis Vako, senior, forward

#### South Lyon East

Colin Boulard, senior, midfield/forward

- Leo Ifuku, junior, midfield/forward
- John Crapps, junior, defense

Alex Neville, senior, midfield/forward

#### **Walled Lake Central**

David James, senior, midfield
 Nick Kay, sophomore, goalie
 Justin Quinn, junior, forward
 Josh Peterman, junior, defense

#### Lakeland

 Nate Heimke, senior, defense
 Nick Smith, senior, defense
 Andrea Bruletti, senior, midfield/ forward

#### Walled Lake Northern

- Andrew Moran, senior, goalie
  Kevin Behm, senior, midfield
- Kyle Oliver, senior, defense

#### Milford

 Justin Meyer, senior, forward
 Matt Mrozinski, sophomore, midfield

#### Waterford Kettering

Christopher Rogers, senior, goalie
 Blake Mojica, senior, defense

#### Waterford Mott

Adrian Lopez, senior, midfield

#### **Honorable Mentions**

■ South Lyon: Alex Valencia, Colin Harris, Jeffrey Graham

- Walled Lake Western: Robert Ewald, Francisco Korn, Nao Otsu
- South Lyon East: Nathan Samluk, Chase Richards, Noah Deskovitz
- Walled Lake Central: Mason White, Mardig Alajajian, Brendan Martin
- Lakeland: Gavin DeGuire, Spencer Samson, Arthur White
- Walled Lake Northern: Tyrnan McGowan, Andrew Darakdjian, Joey laquaniello
- Milford: Danny Smith, Frank Vulaj, Dylan Meek
- Kettering: Garrett Collins, Cameron Gutierrez, Zane Hodge

Mott: Justin Fisher, Sean Reardon, Ethan Collins

## South Lyon falls to WL Western in LVC title game

#### **Andrew Vailliencourt**

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

All good things must come to an end, and that includes South Lyon's unbeaten streak during Lakes Valley Conference play this season.

Walled Lake Western defeated South Lyon 3-2 in overtime in a tight, rainfilled game Wednesday night at South Lyon High School in the LVC tournament championship game to win the league's tournament title. South Lyon scored with less than a minute left in the second half to send the game to overtime, but the Warriors got the job done.

Western finished the regular season second in the conference behind South Lyon, which won the regular season title.

"Congrats to Walled Lake Western, they earned it, they worked hard," South Lyon coach Brian Elliott said. "They're a great team and are well coached. It was an exciting game, I wish the weather conditions were a little bit better. I thought we battled hard."

South Lyon fails to 9-2-2 overall and



Western improves to 7-2-2 as the team's now prepare for the state playoffs. The Lions have an opening round bye.

Western went to overtime in all three of its LVC tournament games, winning every one of them.

"We set this out as a goal in preseason, we wanted to win a conference title," Walled Lake Western coach Andrew Stratton said. "We thought we had the pieces to do it even though we finished sixth in the league last year. We thought we'd fly under the radar a little bit. ... We're calling ourselves the overtime warriors. We know how to play 100 minutes."

Both teams had to fight through the bad weather, with rain falling for the entire contest and picking up even more so in overtime. The field conditions were slippery, but it didn't prevent the two offenses from creating opportunities.

Western had the first big chance midway through the first half. Sophomore Kieran Macbeth broke away from the defense and fired a shot at South Lyon junior goalie Colin Harris, who made a wild kick save.

Two minutes later, with 19:22 on the clock, Western senior Luis Vako found the back of the net for the game's first goal.

That goal put the Lions back on their heels as Western continued to be the more active team in the first half. The teams would head to the break with the score 1-0.

The deficit didn't last long, however. South Lyon sophomore Cade White secured the ball in the corner of the field and instead of crossing it in, dribbled in towards the net himself and found an opening. He fired it in for the goal to tie the game at one.

Momentum appeared to shift back in South Lyon's favor until Macbeth received a pass ans sent a big curving shot over Harris' outstretched arms and into the goal. It was an incredible shot that bent from right to left into the net.

As time wound down and Western less than a minute away fro victory, the Lions were awarded one final chance on a free kick by sophomore Josh Mason from a little ways outside the box. He sent in a low shot that was stopped, but senior Matthew Moore was there for the rebound and fired it in to tie the game at two with 54 seconds remaining in regulation.

South Lyon players went wild celebrating the goal, which forced overtime.

South Lyon's Alex Valencia, right, tries to get the ball away from Walled Lake's J.T. Groves. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"I thought Josh Mason did a good job of putting the shot on frame," Elliott said. "If (Moore) didn't get it, it would've been somebody else because we had three guys in with nobody there defending. It's tough to lose, especially in overtime."

Both teams traded opportunities in each 10 minute overtime period, but it was Western that ultimately got the last laugh. Junior Luke Karfis sent in a shot that got past Harris with 2:56 left in the game. It would be the game-winner. Harris played well the whole net, especially in overtime making numerous key saves, but Karfis got the better of him. "This team has been great all year about not getting upset and staying poised," Elliott said. "We have to make sure we keep battling and chipping away at teams. I thought we played pretty good soccer. I thought we possessed pretty well, I thought we completed passes."

After the game, Moore said that the field conditions were pretty bad and it was difficult to get clean touches with how slippery everything was. He added that he usually likes playing in this type of weather, but it was colder than normal, which added to the crazy night of action. "It sucks but I can't even think about it," Moore said. "We have districts coming up so we have to keep going. ... These boys will be fine. If anything, we'll use this as fuel. We'll get better, we'll do better."

Now on a bye week until districts, Elliott said the Lions have schedule a scrimmage against Fenton, where they will get a chance to play on a grass field, which is what Brighton has at Sloan Field, the site of South Lyon's district.

"That's not the end of our season," Elliott said. "The most important part is yet to come and I think our best soccer is still to come hopefully." (NNNR) HOMETOWNLIFE.COM I THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 I 78

## **Michigan hunters warned of EEE dangers**

Kristen Jordan Shamus **Detroit Free Press** USA TODAY NETWORK

The dangerous mosquito-borne virus Eastern equine encephalitis is a risk for deer hunters this season, as bow-hunting starts this week in Michigan.

Health officials say it's important for hunters to remember that there's an outbreak of EEE in 15 counties in the lower half of the state, and they should take precautions to protect themselves from bites.

"Hunters, like anyone else who is outside and exposed to mosquitoes, are potentially at risk of contracting EEE via mosquito bites," said Dan O'Brien, a wildlife veterinarian at the wildlife disease laboratory of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

There also is a very tiny possibility of No. contracting EEE, O'Brien said, when hunters field-dress an infected deer.

So far this year in Michigan, at least 11 whitetail deer have been confirmed to have the virus, which is carried by birds native to hardwood swamp areas and transmitted to humans and animals through mosquito bites.

"It's conceivable, but also not docu- mals."

mented as far as I am aware, that a person could inhale the EEE virus in an aerosol of brain or nervous system tissue that could be created by cutting off antlers with a power saw, or self-inoculate themselves with virus into an eye or a cut with contaminated fingers, if the deer had sufficient concentrations of the virus in its nervous system," O'Brien said

He noted that in the 1930s and '40s, there were a few cases in which laboratory workers who were manufacturing vaccines accidentally infected themselves while working with EEE-infected chick embryos.

"In those situations, they were infected by splashes into their eyes," O'Brien said.

"So is it possible? Yes. Is it probable?

"Hunters concerned about EEE in those areas where the disease has been identified this year should protect themselves from mosquito bites, and not harvest sick deer or those behaving abnormally. If they do shoot an abnormally acting deer, they should not saw into the brain or spinal cord of those ani-

The counties considered high risk for EEE in Michigan are: Newaygo, Montcalm, Kent, Allegan, Barry, Van Buren, Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, Van Buren, St. Joseph, Calhoun, Jackson, Livingston, Genesee and Lapeer.

Until the first hard frost, hunters should avoid mosquito bites by:

Avoiding being outdoors from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes that carry the EEE virus are most active.

Applying insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other U.S Environmental Protection Agency-approved product to exposed skin or clothing, and always following the manufacturer's directions for use.

Wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors. Apply insect repellent to clothing to help prevent bites.

And to avoid the very remote possibility of contracting EEE while fielddressing an infected deer, they should: Wear gloves

Avoid shooting any deer that appears sick

Avoid shooting or eating the meat of any animal that appears to be sick.

Look for signs of disease and have the head of the deer tested at any DNR field station.

Cook deer meat to at least 165 degrees to kill pathogens

Only about 4% to 5% of people who are infected with EEE develop severe symptoms, and it takes four to 10 days after the bite of an infected mosquito to develop symptoms of EEE, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC reports that symptoms include:

Fever

Chills

- Joint pain/achiness
- Sudden onset headache
- Irritability and restlessness
- Drowsiness
- Anorexia
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Cyanosis
- Seizures or convulsions
- Coma

There is no treatment and no cure for EEE. Anyone with symptoms is urged to seek medical care.



The Northville girls cross country team remains undefeated after winning its latest tri-meet against Plymouth and Howell. COURTESY OF NANCY SMITH

## Northville girls CC still

## Northville golf wins KLAA

Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The defending state champion Northville girls golf team added another trophy to its collection, winning the KLAA championship this week at Kensington Golf Course.

The Mustangs shot a 311 at the preseason tournament and a 313 at the postseason tournament to beat second-place Brighton by a whopping 28 strokes. It is the second consecutive KLAA title for the team.

The 13 team event featured three teams that are ranked in the top five in the state, showing just how impressive Northville's win is. The team also had six of its athletes make the all-conference team

Megha Vallabhaneni was Northville's top golfer, shooting a 74 and 76 in the two outings. She finished first overall in the league. Northville is un-

girls got onto the back nine, they were able to capitalize. It was a good day for us."

#### Team scoring

1. Northville 313; 2. Brighton 341; 3. Plymouth 356; 4. Hartland 357; 5. Livonia Franklin 367; 6. Salem 375; 7. Livonia Stevenson 380; 8. Livonia Churchill 400; 9. Novi 427; 10. Canton 440; 11. Howell 440; 12. Belleville 474; 13. Westland John Glenn 481; 14. Dearborn Fordson 532.

#### **Final season standings**

1. Northville 32 points; 2. Brighton and Plymouth 29; 4. Hartland 26; 5. Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Salem 22; 8. Livonia Churchill 18; 9. Canton and Novi 15; 11. Howell 12; 12. Belleville and Westland John Glenn 9; 14. Dearborn Fordson 4.

#### **Top individuals**

Maggie Pietila, Brighton, 76 Megha Vallabhaneni, Northville, 76 Katelyn Tokarz, Northville, 77 Bridget Boczar, Plymouth, 78

## undefeated after tri-meet against Plymouth, Howell

The Northville girls cross-country team took the tri-meet win over Plymouth (24-33) and Howell (15-49) on Tuesday, , taking its dual-meet season record to 6-0 with one more meet in the season

The Mustangs had a group of six who finished in the top 10 with Yasmine Mansi (2nd in 19:18) Emily Gordon (3rd in 19:32), Oni Tupa (4th in 20:16) Keira Courtney (5th in 20:38), Emma Munro (8th in 21:09) and Olivia Masse (9th in 21:19).

"The girls ran a good race again in the hot and humid conditions on a tough Cass Benton Course," Northville girls cross country coach Nancy Smith said.

"It has been a crazy weather season and we have yet to have ideal racing conditions, but the girls ran tough and worked as a team to bring home the win.

"The girls are working on packing together and keeping contact with each other, which will be extremely important over the next month as we head into the championship part of our season."

Northville will finish the regular season on Tuesday when the Mustangs take on Novi at Cass Benton at 4 p.m.

Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

## Northville boys tennis fights off Novi for KLAA

#### **Andrew Vailliencourt** Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Northville boys tennis team was crowned KLAA champions over the weekend, defeating runner-up Novi by three points.

Livonia Stevenson and Novi won the KLAA East and West Divisions, respectively, in the regular season, but neither team was able to top the Mustangs in the conference tournament.

Here are the full standings of the eight team tournament, which is made up of the top four teams in each division:

1. Northville - 22

- 2. Novi 19
- 3. Salem 8
- 4. Canton 7
- 5. Stevenson 3
- T-6. Churchill 2
- T-6. Dearborn 2
- 8. Franklin O

Northville won No. 1 singles, No. 3 singles, No. 4 singles, No. 2 doubles, No. 4 doubles and No. 5 doubles.

Novi won No. 2 singles, No. 1 doubles and No. 3 doubles. No other team won a

flight.

Salem's No. 1 and No. 2 singles players finished second, and Canton's No. 2 doubles took second. Novi or Northville came in second in every other flight.

The Mustangs are coached by Trey Keating and Andy Koilpillai. Team members include:

No. 1 singles - Matthew Freeman

- No. 2 singles Nico Buettner
- No. 3 singles Abhi Attaluri
- No. 4 singles Ouinn Cassar

No. 1 doubles - Daniel Dong, Ani Attaluri

No. 2 doubles - Cameron Mailley, Ryan Vig

No. 3 doubles - Justin Yang, Anish Palli

No. 4 doubles - Rachit Jain, Rohith Kesamneni

No. 5 doubles - Julian Dong, Rahul Giridhar

Contact Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and Liv-Sports@hometownstats to life.com.

defeated in the KLAA West this year.

"We were a bit anxious at the start, but we also know statistically that we can take advantage of opportunities on the back nine at Kensington," Northville coach Chris Cronin said. "This gave the girls the confidence to keep battling. Mentally, I thought we were rock solid today, and once the

Sophia Wyogonik, Franklin, 78 Halena Harris, Churchill, 78 Avneet Gill, Northville, 80 Sedona Shipka, Northville, 80 Haesol Park, Northville, 81 Grace Boczar, Plymouth, 81 Alyssa Yaggie, Brighton, 85 Megan Kozlowski, Salem, 85

## South Lyon girls swimming has eight qualify for states

The South Lyon girls swim and dive team had quite a day Oct. 5 at the Oakland County Meet. The Lions had eight swimmers qualify for the meet, four of them making individual state cut times.

Senior Nicole Hanshaw made cuts in the 200 Free and 100 Fly. Senior Grace Gargiulo made the 100 Free cut and the 50 Free, while senior, Megan Sartori made the 100 Backstroke time. Freshman Sierra Newton also made her first individual state times in the 50 and 100 Free events.

Fellow qualifiers Emerson Ramey, Savannah Dzumaryk, Kendra Ebel and Emma Cusumano all established new personal-best times in their individual swims.

"It's been a very successful season

so far, and it's directly a result of the girls' hard work and dedication." head coach Bob Crosby said. "We have a wonderful group of young ladies who've dedicated themselves to reaching our goal of repeating as LVC Champs. The County meet was our best meet of the year, as we continued to improve our performances in the relay events and added to our list of state qualification times individually. It's exciting to think of how successful the rest of the season can be, as the conference and state meets approach."

South Lyon takes its 5-0 record into a hometown duel against South Lyon East for first place in the Lakes Valley Conference on Oct. 10.

Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



The South Lyon swim and dive team had eight swimmers qualify for state at the **Oakland County meet Oct. 5. SUBMITTED** 

# **Obituaries**

#### Herbert E. Weston, Jr. DDS.

NORTHVILLE - Herbert E. Weston, Jr. DDS., age 94, of Northville, passed away September 12, 2019. He was born July 16, 1925 in Detroit, Michigan; son of Herbert E. and Alice (nee Wilson) Weston. Herb was united in marriage to Jean Anne Lay on August 25, 1951. They were happily married for 49 years until her death on August 28, 2000. Herb and his wife made Northville their home in 1962. He moved to Ann Arbor in 2013 after living in Northville for 51 years.

He attended University of Missouri for the Cadet Training School. After serving in the United States Army Air Corps he continued his education at Highland Park Junior College before transferring to the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Herb graduated in 1952 with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree. For 37 years Herb owned his own dental practice; he retired in 1990. He truly took pride in his career and loved taking care of his patients. Herb was blessed to work with incredible people. He and his staff had mutual respect and adoration for one another.

Herb was a trustee for the James and Lynelle Holden Fund for decades, financially supporting human rights, especially those of children. He valued his service with this group, and they valued him, mourning his departure from active participation several years ago. He also volunteered to work with students at Ida B. Cooke Middle School. He created a wooden spool game with a Polish student who gained English skills. One of Herb's salient traits was his intellectual curiosity and genuine interest in how the world works.

Herb was a talented woodworker. He was able to furnish the cottage he and his wife built up north. He made the furniture and Jean Anne crafted the needle work and macrame decorations for the cottage. Herb also used his skills to build a canoe. He especially loved carving birds and working with stained glass, as well. Another talent he had was metal working; making lamps was his specialty. Herb also enjoyed gardening, ice skating, snow skiing, and being active. He was an avid reader and loved listening to music. Herb had a great sense of humor and he and Jean Anne were the spark at many social gatherings. He was a very kind, cheerful and generous husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and friend.

Herb is survived by his children, Lesli (Andy Adamson) Weston, Thomas (Jean) DuRussel-Weston, Jim (Sue) Weston; his grandchildren, Weston (Charlie Cook) Adamson, Aaron (Marie) Weston, Ariel (James Jilek) Adamson, Sarah (Shaun) Sheikh, Matthew Weston, and Paige (Paul) Fry; and his great grandchildren, Daniel, Nathan, Calum, Antonia, Juliet, and Forrest due October 16, 2019. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, his daughter Barbara Jean Weston and his brother John Weston.

A time of gathering will be held on Friday, October 25 from 3pm until 5pm with a Memorial Service at 5pm at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 West Dunlap, Northville. He will be laid to rest in Oakview Cemetery next to his beloved wife. In lieu of flowers, contributions would be appreciated to Penrickton Center for Blind Children, 26530 Eureka Road, Taylor, MI 48180 or Detroit Goodfellows, Po Box 44444, Detroit, MI 48244.

#### Robert Neff, Jr.

NORTHVILLE - Robert L. Neff, Jr., age 76, longtime resident of Northville, passed away peacefully October 6, 2019. He was born March 13, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan; son of Robert L. and Mary T.



#### **Richard George Skarritt**

- Richard George Skarritt was born to George and Pauline Skarritt in their home, in Commerce Village on December 31, 1929. He passed away at his daughter's home on October 6, 2019. Richard left employment at General Motors to serve his country in Germany during the



Richard is survived by his three children, grandchildren, Stacy Lynn Skarritt, Connor Nicholas Skarritt, and Cameron Lane Skarritt. Siblings also surviving are Joan Gofton, Donald Skarritt, Polly Keller, and Margaret Melville (Randy).

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, October 12, at 11AM at the Milford United Methodist Church, 1200 Atlantic St., Milford. Reverend Sherry Foster will officiate. Burial will follow in Milford Memorial Cemetery. Friends may visit on Friday, October 11, from 2-8PM at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford.

Memorial contributions may be given to Silver Muzzle Cottage, (3785 Rice Road NW, Rapid City, MI 49676) or Hospice of Michigan.

#### **Debra Lawrence Spess**

**MOORESVILLE, NC** Debra Lawrence Spess, 62, of Mooresville, North Carolina, passed away on Sunday, September 29, 2019.

She was born on Sep-



Emma Keith **Detroit Free Press** USA TODAY NETWORK

A Michigan puppy mill is accused of selling sick animals and misrepresenting dog breeds, ages and health records in a new notice from the attorney general's office.

A Sept. 24 letter from Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel's office alleges that the Hillsdale County puppy mill, referred to only as "Steury and Miller Puppy Mill," has also been misleading customers with false vaccination records.

The letter includes a cease and desist notice, giving Paul Steury and his associate Peter Miller10 days to show that they're complying with orders to stop selling sick animals and misleading customers.

"(Steury and Miller) sell these dogs for over \$200.00 each, knowing that some if not most of the consumers will have to pay high veterinary fees due to the health conditions of these animals," a subpoena petition from the attorney general's office reads. "Additionally, (Steury and Miller) indicate that the animals have been certified as a certain breed, which is not always the case."

The business is also warned against getting rid of any its animals, taking them off the premises or euthanizing them.

"We are extremely concerned with not only

(McElvar) Neff. Robert graduated from Shrine High School in Royal Oak; Class of 1961. An athlete in high school he played baseball, football, and ran track. He attended Ferris State University on a football scholarship and earned a Bachelor of Science in engineering. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Robert later attended Lawrence Technological University. While at Ferris, Robert

met the love of his life Patricia Patterson. They were united in marriage on September 24, 1966 and just celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary.

Robert had a passion for the automotive industry and was heavily involved in both SAE and IEEE professional organizations. An excitement for its evolution and new technology he became and industry expert.

Robert was a member of Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church for many years. He coached girls' soccer for both Northville and Farmington High Schools. He was an avid downhill snow skier. For over 50 years he taught with Blizzard Ski School in West Bloomfield. He also taught for Vail at Mt. Brighton and Beaver Creek in Colorado. He was known for his infectious smile, patience, and his kind and compassionate spirit. Robert loved being with family, especially during Thanksgiving and Christmas. He cherished the tradition of spending time with his brother Tom, sister-in-law Judi and her boys Mike, John, and Jamie. His favorite tradition during this time was reading "The Night Before Christmas" to his grandson Connor.

Robert is survived by his beloved wife, Patricia Neff; his daughters, Stephanie Neff and Shannon Neff; his grandson, Connor; 2 brothers; 2 sisters; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A Funeral Mass will be held Monday, October 14, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. with a time of gathering beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 133 Orchard Dr., Northville. Mr. Neff will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville.

In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorial contributions to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154 or American Cancer Society, 20450 Civic Center Dr., Southfield, MI 48076.

Please share condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com



tember 20, 1957 in Detroit, MI, to the late Wellington "Bob" Lawrence and Betty Goodall Lawrence. Deb loved being a



mom, wife, nurse, and helping people. She was a hospice nurse for over 25 years. Deb enjoyed watching hockey, especially the Red Wings, horses, Mackinac Island Michigan, and visiting the upper Peninsula. She loved her fur babies.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers, Doug and Denny Lawrence.

She is survived by her husband, Bernie Spess; sons, Daniel Spess and wife, Casey, Michael D. and wife, Rhian; and brothers, Bob and Ron Lawrence.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date in North Carolina and Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to any suicide prevention group.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home & Crematory, Mooresville, NC, is serving the Spess family. Condolences may be made to the family at www. cavin-cook.com.

#### Gary A. "Girard" Girard

MILFORD - Gary A. "Girard" Girard, a resident of Milford since 1980, 'left the building', surrounded by love on September 30, 2019 after battling cancer since December. He was 68 years old.

He is survived by Cheryl, his beloved wife of over 47 years; his daugh-

ters, Melissa (Tom) Mast and Erin (Patrick) Reynolds; his granddaughter, Emily Mast; sisters, Kim (Dana) Swan and Val (Rick) Jones; sisters and brothers-in-law, Deb (Gary "Clintsy") Clinton, Cathy Blaesing, Annette (Norm) Peach, Russ (Marianne) Blaesing and many nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends.

A Memorial Gathering will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty Street, Milford, on Saturday, October 5th, from 5-8 PM.

Memorials may be made in his name to St. Jude Children's Hospital. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www. LynchandSonsMilford.com



The attorney general's office got involved in the issue after Monroe County Animal Control and the Humane Society of the **United States forwarded** complaints about the mill, according to the letter.

The letter also notes that the attorney general's office is seeking investigative subpoenas in Hillsdale County. The Free Press was unable to find contact information for Steury, Miller or their business, which did not appear in online searches and is not a registered business in Michigan.

The attorney general's office has previously warned Michigan pet lovers about the hazards of puppy mills, which are establishments where dogs are bred and kept for sale in inhumane conditions. As of April, Nessel's office had gotten 20 puppy scam complaints since 2017.

Suspected puppy scams can be reported online to the Consumer **Protection Division of the** attorney general's office.

Here's some of the office's tips for avoiding getting scammed by a puppy mill:

If you're buying from a breeder, ask to see both the dog's mother and the premises the dog was raised on. Look out for breeders who won't let you visit their facilities, or who seem to have mis-

See PUPPIES, Page 91



## Labradoodle captures hearts in Detroit, Lansing

Emma Keith Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

We know Detroiters love their dogs, but which breed do they love the most?

Rover.com thinks it knows. The dog walking and pet sitting site released its annual report on the nation's most popular breeds Wednesday, zooming in on 40 top U.S. cities like Detroit.

Rover used data about more than half a million pet parents and a survey of more than 1,000 Rover users for its findings about the nation's dog preferences.

Here are Detroit's most popular breeds this year:

Labradoodle (the labradoodle is the current first pup of Michigan after Goy. Gretchen Whitmer and her family adopted labradoodle puppy Kevin this spring)

- Goldendoodle
- Siberian husky

American pit bull terrier

Jack Russell terrier

Rover also tracks dog names' popularity across the nation.

Last year's December survey showed that the most popular 2018 male dog names in Detroit were Max, Cooper, Charlie, Buddy and Jack, while popular female dog names were Bella, Lucy, Luna, Daisy and Lola.

Unsurprisingly, Detroit loves auto-



Avicii, a Goldendoodle owned by Steven and Alexis Needham of Ferndale, hangs out at Detroit Fleat in Ferndale in July 2018. DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE

themed dog names. "Maverick" was the 107th most popular dog name on last year's Detroit list, and the most popular car-themed name. Here are the other most-used car names for Detroit dogs last year:

170. Titan

**345.** Bolt

264. Chevy

#### **483. Edge**

Rover's new report also lists the nation's 20 most popular breeds, available in full through its site. Here are the top 10 dogs this year:

Mixed breed

Labrador retriever

Chihuahua

Golden retriever

- German shepherd
- Yorkshire terrier Shih-tzu
- Dachshund
- Boxer
- Goldendoodle

The survey also looked beyond breed to figure out how Americans are feeling about their dogs. Here's what else the 2019 Rover survey has to say about U.S. dog ownership:

■ 37% of dog owners surveyed say they picked their breed without any prior research - it was just "love at first sight," according to Rover. About a third of dog owners said they got a dog the same day they decided to.

46% of dog owners do research before picking their pup, and there are a few things they consider when choosing: 54% consider size, 43% think about cost and 36% factor in disposition.

However owners chose their dogs, they're pretty happy with them. 87% said they would recommend their current breed to a friend, and 88% say they're happier with a dog than without.

There are a few things dog owners wish they would have known about their pets before they brought them home, like how loud their dog might be, how much it might shed, how much attention it would need and how it might have anxiety sometimes.

## **Puppies**

#### Continued from Page 8B

leading claims on their websites.

If you're buying from a pet store, be cautious: many sell dogs from puppy mills. Watch out for stores that won't identify a puppy's breeder, that try to sell underage puppies, that sell puppies from far away, or that appear to use deceptive buzzwords (like "designer," "hypoallergenic," or "registered") to make you think they're sourcing from family breeders instead of mills.

If you find an adorable puppy available only online, image search the dog's photo with Google. If it pops up on multiple sites, the sale is probably a scam.

#### "We are extremely

concerned with not only the representations being made to consumers regarding the health, breed and age of the animals that you are selling, but also with the actual health of these animals and the conditions that they are being kept in."

**Office of state Attorney General** Dana Nessel in a Sept. 24 letter



Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel joins representatives from the United States Humane Society in April to bring attention to the importance of recognizing and stopping puppy scams in the state. MANDI WRIGHT/DETROIT FREE PRESS

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## Tips for managing your seasonal employees this year

#### Kate Lopaza thejobnetwork.com

Every year, it seems like the holidays hit retail earlier and earlier — Christmas candy displays mingling with Halloween candy displays, emails reminding us that Black Friday is just around the corner. That means it's never too early to start planning around your holiday staffing needs. If you'll be managing seasonal employees this year, here are some tips to get ahead on your holiday season staffing goals.

#### **Recruit early**

If you wait until the last minute, you'll get the employees who are still available at the last minute. There could be some diamonds in there, but if you really want to reach the best seasonal candidates, you need to get out ahead of the hiring rush. Before your busy season kicks in, get your job ads written, polished, and posted months ahead of time. It may seem like it's too early to start planning for the winter holidays, but experts say that starting that early can really get you access to the best candidate pool. Starting early also gives you more flexibility in your hiring. You'll have space to properly vet your candidates, find the applicants who will work best on your staff, and train them well. It also gives you time to weed out problematic seasonal employees before you're in a desperate time crunch.



GETTY IMAGES

mum wage per your state or town's regulations? Will they receive overtime if working more than 40 hours per week? Seasonal laborers may not be your standard full-time employees, but they're also not indentured servants, so it's important to make sure you're giving them the same protections and baseline benefits as you're giving to regular employees.

or openly giving your regulars perks that aren't available to seasonal employees. It's important to make them feel like valued members of the team while they're there.

Remember that you may not have to deal with these particular seasonal employees again, but you will likely be hiring some seasonal employees — and if word-of-mouth suggests you're a lousy employer, it won't help your organizaand what the benchmarks will be.

Whenever possible, make it clear how long you expect the job to last by setting a start date and an end date. It may not always be possible to set the end date, but you should still be able to provide an approximate range. Having a lingering, open-ended job may scare off good candidates who can't be available indefinitely, or who want to be able to make other plans after this job is done.

#### Keep a VIP list of seasonal employees

At the end of a season, it can be hard to say goodbye to great employees, even when circumstances dictate it. If there are seasonal employees you'd like to have back for future openings, make sure to let them know how much you thought of their work and that you'd like to keep them in mind in the future. Get their up-to-date contact information before they go. Make this outreach part of your early seasonal planning, to see if your rock stars from previous years are available and interested. And even if they're not, they may be able to refer potential candidates, putting you ahead in the recruiting game. Just like it's apparently never too early for holiday cheer in the retail world, it can never hurt to start thinking about your own holiday season as early as possible. Long before the first bits of tinsel and sale ads start going up, the more effort you put into your seasonal recruitment and management plan, the cheerier things will be. Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published. She investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

#### Treat your seasonal employees fairly

Take the time to review the pay and benefits your seasonal employees will be receiving. Will they be making mini-

#### Treat seasonal employees the same as other employees

As someone who made ends meet in school by taking temporary jobs, I can assure you that it kills you a little inside when someone dismisses you as a temp, or somehow less-than because you're not a permanent member of the team. Sure, we all know that the seasonal employees are there to do a job well, then move on. But creating an atmosphere where you have different classes of employees just sets you up for discord and discontent.

Try to avoid scheduling seasonal employees exclusively for unwanted shifts,

tion in the future.

#### Make sure everyone knows the expectations

Seasonal employment can occasionally be a stepping stone to a more permanent gig, so it's important for seasonal employees to know what they can expect from this role. If this is simply a time-based job with no expectation of permanent hire, make sure they're aware of this — ideally during the hiring process, but at latest before you train them. If there is a chance of being hired on a more permanent basis, make sure they know what the likelihood of that is,

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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle

## **DIET & EXERCISE WORD SEARCH**

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